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Fred Rose, Canadian who spied for Soviets dies in Poland at 76

From combined dispatches

Fred Rose, 76, who was serving as a member of the Canadian Parliament before disclosures by the late Igor Gouzenko led to his conviction as a spy for the Soviet Union, died Wednesday in Warsaw, Poland.

Mr. Rose was elected to Parliament as a Communist Labor Progressive Party member for the Montreal area of Cartier in a 1943 by-election and was re-elected in the general elections of 1945.

That same year, however, Gouzenko, a clerk with the Soviet embassy in Ottawa, defected and gave the Canadian government a list of its citizens described as spies for the Soviet Union. Gouzenko died last summer in the Toronto area.

"Of all the persons mentioned in the Russian documents...none, Soviet officials excepted, have been more repeatedly and prominently mentioned than Fred Rose," a royal

commission reported in 1946 after investigating Gouzenko's revelations.

The documents said Rose gave the Soviets details about a secret wartime session of Parliament in 1944.

Within a year after Gouzenko's defection, Mr. Rose and 19 other Canadians were on trial charged with spying. He served most of a six-year prison sentence before he was released and quietly moved to Czechoslovakia and then to Poland with his wife and daughter. The Canadian government revoked his citizenship in 1957.

Mr. Rose was born Fred Rosenberg in Poland. At age 9 he moved with his parents to Canada and settled in the working-class district of Cartier. In the 1930s he worked to organize unskilled workers and the unemployed and in 1931 he served nine months in prison because his beliefs were considered seditious.